



DR. RICHARD ZIEHMER
Superintendent

Non-Union Employee Risks Loss Of Job

SJ Teacher Won't Pay Full MEA Dues

A St. Joseph school teacher is risking his job by objecting to paying full dues to the teacher union he doesn't belong to.

Reluctance to pay has brought a request by the superintendent for Roger D. Jones, 32, a Milton junior high teacher, to decide by Oct. 15 and warning nonpayment "may result in discontinuance of your employment with the St. Joseph Public Schools," Jones says.

Jones said he wants to pay a "fair share" of about \$50 rather than St. Joseph Education Association (SJEA) annual dues of \$145.

Jones said he will ask Supt. Richard Ziehmer to study the legality of full-dues requirements from nonmembers and would like public pressure on the St. Joseph school board to see that the study is carried out.

The controversy came to light in a letter from Jones to his newspaper. The full text of the letter is published on page 2.

Jones said he recognizes he has a financial obligation to SJEA based on its "actual costs of negotiations" for the current con-

tract.

"At my option, I may pay more than that. But not the full cost of union dues."

He said he objects to the "extortion" of full dues from nonmembers required by the agency shop clause of the 1973-74 and 1974-75 contract between the SJEA and the school board.

Supt. Ziehmer confirmed the essence of his letter warning Jones and added:

"We cannot alter the terms of the contract at this point. We don't have authority to alter the contract. The contract says he must pay dues or be subject to dismissal."

Although school officials understand there's still a gray area surrounding a "fair representative fee," the contract sets agency shop fees equal to dues and Ziehmer believes Jones' only recourse is through the courts.

No others in the St. Joseph system have refused to pay full dues,

Ziehmer said.

Jones said he thinks he has legal footing for his opinion and "if there's a germ's-eye view of a chance of fighting this form of extortion, I will appeal it as far as the Michigan Supreme Court."

If he's definitely shown to be wrong, however, "I'll have to pay the dues and be like the rest of them."

Jones said he's relying on a Nov. 29, 1972 Michigan Supreme Court decision preventing public unions from having agency shops where non-union members are compelled to pay membership fees.

The court held any such clause "which makes no effort to relate the nonmembers' economic obligations to actual collective bargaining expenses is clearly prohibited by section 10 of the Public Employment Relations Act..."

The court said in case the state act would provide for an agency

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 1)



ROGER D. JONES
Fighting Total Dues

Syrian Capital Is Bombed By Israeli Jets

Fierce Ground Fighting Continues In Fourth Day Of Mideast War

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israeli Phantom jets bombed Damascus today for the first time in the fourth Arab-Israeli war as fierce ground battles raged along the Suez Canal and on the Golan Heights.

Cairo also had its first air raid

alarm of the four-day-old war, but the Israelis did not hit the Egyptian capital. Instead they raided two major military airfields deep inside Egypt.

Associated Press correspondent Elias Antar reported from Damascus that the three Israeli

raiders scored direct hits on the Defense Ministry and the headquarters of Radio Damascus across the street, inflicting heavy casualties. The buildings are on the eastern edge of the city, and Antar said a house about half a mile away was hit.

There was no immediate estimate of the casualties, but Antar said more than half a dozen ambulances were taking the dead and wounded to hospitals.

The raid began shortly after noon and lasted less than 10 minutes. As the three American-built jets sped back toward Israel, a lone Syrian MIG21 went in pursuit of them but fired no shots while it was still in sight of the city.

An Israeli spokesman said the attack on Damascus was in retaliation for Syrian shelling earlier today of Israeli settlements south of Nazareth in which the Israelis claimed there were a number of civilian casualties. The Syrians claimed they hit only military targets.

The Israeli spokesman said the Phantom pilots "reported very good hits" on the Syrian military headquarters.

In the ground war along the Suez Canal, Israel claimed it was holding a line three to four miles east of the waterway. But Egypt said its forces had pushed the Israelis back nine miles from the canal and sent them "massively fleeing in disarray into the Sinai Desert."

The Israeli military command also claimed that its troops had expelled the Syrians from the Golan Heights and were holding the cease-fire line Israel imposed there in the 1967 war. But "north of Qunetra battles are raging to contain a Syrian counterattack," the command reported.

"The Syrians attempted this morning to land troops by helicopter in the vicinity of El Rom, in the Golan Heights," the announcement continued. "Four Syrian helicopters were destroyed, and all troops they were carrying were killed."

The Israeli command also said its bombers flew deep into Egypt and blasted two major military airfields, one at El Mansoura, north of Cairo in the Nile Delta.

"The front is in flux, but the enemy is being held in check," said the broadcast today. "The Israeli army is holding the line five to seven kilometers east of the canal."

The broadcast claimed dozens of Egyptian tanks were destroyed. (See back page, sec. 1, col. 2)

Mr. Francisco & Mr. Joseph now at Victor's. 983-6747. Adv. Golf at Paw Paw Lake. Adv.



ISRAELIS UNITING: Two girls sit under a road sign in front of a tank somewhere in the Sinai with cans of water for Israeli soldiers Monday. Like the

previous Middle East war in 1967, the people of Israel all pitch in to help, either as soldiers or as supporters. (AP Wirephoto)

Trial By Jury Right Upheld On Misdemeanors

BY STEVE McQUOWN
Paw Paw Bureau

PAW PAW — Michigan law provides the right of jury trials to persons accused of misdemeanor crimes. Van Buren Circuit Court Judge David Anderson Jr. has said in an opinion which reverses an earlier stand by Seventh District Court Judge Luther I. Daines of Paw Paw.

In an opinion made available yesterday, Anderson ordered the county's district court judges to "...proceed with all cases by jury trial except ordinance matters and causes in which a trial by jury has been properly waived by the accused."

In May, Judge Daines asserted that recent court decisions indicated that persons accused of a "minor traffic" violation had no right to demand a jury trial.

The district court stand came in the case of Henry Seisco, 18, of Dowagiac, who had been charged with disregarding a traffic light, pleaded innocent and requested a jury trial.

When Judge Daines refused to call a jury, Richard Halpert, an assistant county prosecutor, refused to proceed with the case and Judge Daines dismissed the charge against Seisco.

Halpert said he could not in "good conscience" proceed with the case unless there was a jury as Seisco had requested.

County Prosecutor William Buhl subsequently appealed the district court decision, asking that the jury trial matter be decided and that the charge against Seisco be reinstated.

In his decision, Anderson reversed Judge Daines but did not reinstate the charge against Seisco.

He said that while denying a jury trial in a misdemeanor case is not in violation of the federal constitution, the state constitution still preserves the right.

The charge against Seisco was not reinstated, the judge wrote, because the legal snarl had deprived him of a speedy trial through no fault of his own.

The prosecutor's office did not escape criticism in the matter. Anderson wrote that he did not "condone the refusal of the prosecution to proceed with the (Seisco) trial. There is no constitutional right in the people to a trial by jury," he wrote.

He added that the prosecution should have proceeded with the case and left it "squarely with the defendant whether to participate or not," adding, that the accused could have appealed the matter.

"Refusal to proceed, under the circumstances, bordered upon contempt," Judge Anderson wrote.

Halpert had no public comment to make, but Buhl issued this brief statement:

"We are pleased that the court upheld the constitutional right to jury trial. As to the question of contempt, it was never an issue argued or raised by any party, and the proposition that a prosecutor must knowingly participate in the denial of a constitutional right, and subject himself to the risk of a civil rights suit in federal court, or, in the alternative be held in contempt by the court, is somewhat disturbing."



JUDGE ANDERSON
Upholds jury right



JUDGE DAINES
His verdict overruled

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Income Levy Would Go Up

Elimination Of Food Sales Tax Backed

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — A drive by the Michigan Citizens Lobby to eliminate the state's four per cent sales tax on food, has found some key support in the legislature.

Sen. Harry DeMaso, chairman of the Senate Taxation Committee, says he supports the idea and is preparing a substitute bill if needed to replace bills already introduced.

Meanwhile, the lobby set up some 2,000 "ballot boxes" outside Michigan food stores Monday, hoping to collect 225,000 "votes" — enough to put pressure on the state government to approve the idea.

"It is the one thing the state can do to offset the rising cost of food," said Douglas Ross of the MCL. The lobby also plans a bucket drive to finance its campaign.

The sales tax on food has long been under fire as putting a heavy burden on the low-income consumer, who needs food just as much as his wealthier neighbor.

The sticking point is replacing the lost revenue.

Ross says that a half-per cent hike in the personal income tax would replace the \$140 million he says would be lost.

"What is important for the middle income people to understand," he said, "is that anyone who earns \$20,000 a year or less would come out ahead under this program."

DeMaso says his bill would eliminate the four per cent tax on food for human consumption and on prescription drugs.

"The big question is the definition of human consumption," the Battle Creek Republican said. "The tax brings in about \$150-\$200 million depending on the definition. The tax on prescription drugs brings in about \$4.5 million."

"We must have some means of replenishing the revenue, however," he said. "I personally think the atmosphere is more favorable now than ever, but most legislators will insist on a means of replacing the money. It cannot be absorbed into the

surplus."

DeMaso said a boost of sixtenths of a per cent in the income tax would replace the funds, raising the tax to 4.5 per cent. Or, he said, the state sales tax could be increased on other items.

Given a way of replacing the money, he said, he believed both houses would favor such a measure, although he indicated a goal of action by Thanksgiving set by the citizens lobby might be a little soon.

Gov. William Milliken has said he believes the concept worthy of consideration, but also expressed concern over replacing the lost money.

A spokesman for Milliken said the governor would demand that such a measure increase the fairness in the state's tax structure, and that it not blunt the effect of a tax cut which goes into effect in January. The cut will save taxpayers \$380,000 million over two years.

Kissinger

Will Travel

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Middle East war has not led Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger to change two major trips he has planned, and he probably will visit Korea after the trips to Japan and the People's Republic of China late this month.

practice until an attorney is contacted regarding the legality of it.

Action came after Supt. William Nolan said one of the district's kindergarten teachers had received a complaint from a mother of a kindergarten student causing him to order the halt last week, pending board consideration. He did not identify the woman.

The students have been saying the blessing for years before having a milk and cookie snack during their half-day at school. The district currently has two sections of kindergarten students, a morning and afternoon session.

Since the halt, Nolan said he had received many objections from parents about the one ob-

jection which is blocking the practice.

School officials could not be reached for comment this morning on the situation.

Complaints from citizens several years ago in another state caused a U.S. Supreme court decision banning recital of the Lord's prayer in public schools and mandatory reading from the Bible.

Bloomington is in northeastern Van Buren county.

In other areas, a 1973-74 school year budget of \$1,373,848

was approved. It is \$52,881 higher than projected income but Nolan reported the deficit would be financed from previous year surpluses.

The budget is \$87,642 over last year's budget of \$1,233,125. It is to be financed through \$335,767 in local property tax revenue, the surplus, and state and federal sources.

William Pollard, middle school principal, said an open house is to be held at the school Thursday, Oct. 25, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Young Hostage Freed By Police

PAW PAW — A man reportedly holding a three-year-old boy as a hostage was seized by authorities from Van Buren county at a roadblock near Dowagiac last night, ending a two-hour drama that unfolded on Van Buren county roads last night.

The man was seized when state police officers from Paw Paw distracted him at the roadblock, permitting a shotgun to be wrested from him.

The boy was rescued uninjured, officers said.

In custody was a man identified as William David Nelson, 23, of rural Dowagiac.

According to Van Buren Undersheriff Myron Southworth, officers began seeking a man after the mother of the child, Mrs. Vickie Nelson of Keeler lake in Keeler township, reported the man was holding her son, William and was armed with a shotgun, Nelson is the estranged husband of Mrs. Nelson.

Southworth said several shots were fired at officers by a man they had seen drive away as they approached the Nelson house and then return.

According to officers, the man with the child in the car then left. Southworth said officers trailed the car for two hours until the roadblock was set up and the distraction plan worked out.

Southworth said Nelson was arrested on a charge of assault with intent to commit murder.

THE HERALD-PRESS

Editorial Page

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher
Best Lindenfeld, Managing Editor

Oil Makes U.S. Position In Mideast War Slippery

In the new Mideast War between Arabs and Israelis, oil makes the United States' position slipperier than it has ever been before.

In the past decade, U.S. has gone from the status of an oil-rich nation to an oil-hungry one. While still not importing much crude from the Arab nations, U.S. wants more in the future. Arab leaders say part of the price has got to be U.S. discontinuance of its traditional support of Israel.

If Henry Kissinger, the new U.S. Secretary of State, can solve the dilemma of diplomatic principle versus Arab blackmail, he'll rank in wisdom with Solomon, a statesman who once did a pretty fair job of masterminding perplexing problems in that same Mideastern section of the world.

Going on sympathy only, most Americans would like to see Israel kick the attacking Egyptians back in the Suez and invading Syrians down the rocks of Golan Heights. The epic courage of fledgling Israel over the past 25 years has inspired tremendous admiration here.

However, while a quick victory might give Israel another six years of uneasy peace, it's by no means a final answer to the Arab-Israel conflict. If history repeats, the Arabs would simply gird for another try later on.

This is a time when there should be some international tribunal that could write an enduring and equitable peace settlement for the Mideast—one spreading justice evenly. Unfortunately, the United Nations—the agency that presided at Israel's birth in 1947—is now so packed with pro-Arab votes that it is valueless as a court of equity.

As of this writing (late Monday afternoon), the military picture appeared to be this: Israel knew Syria and Egypt were going to attack but let them in order to win a world-wide public relations advantage. The Israeli cabinet, as a matter of fact, considered a preventive strike, then rejected the idea, even before the Arab attacks began. Israel's losses in the first two days of fighting were heavy but she appeared to be gaining the upper hand. Besides driving Egyptians and Syrians back behind the original cease-fire lines, she may decide to follow them into their respective countries to crush their armed forces.

It could be a short range victory and a long range setback. The worse she defeats the Arabs, some sources say, the more apt is Saudi Arabia to shut off oil to the western nations. Saudi Arabia is the likeliest Arab source of oil for the United States, Israel's best ally.

What the United States ought to do—and fast—is build the pipeline from Alaska's North Slope oil and develop a shale oil industry in the continental West. Then it wouldn't have to compromise principle and crude oil.

U.S., Russia Becoming Big Trading Partners

Three years ago Soviet-United States trade was negligible. In 1973, the U.S. may become the Soviet Union's largest trading partner in the West. The growth of trade between the two nations has been clouded by the wheat deal of 1972, but it has been occurring over a broad front.

In 1971, the total two-way trade between the two was only \$218 million. In 1972, it rose to \$642 million, largely because of major food purchases. After his conferences with Soviet officials in Moscow, U.S. Treasury Secretary George P. Shultz estimated the total for 1973 will be about \$1.5 billion.

Through September, actual trade shipments had passed \$900 million, more than all of the previous two years combined. All the growth to date has been achieved without benefit of favored trading status accorded to the Soviets, a device which has the effect of making available easy credit terms and lowering tariffs.

Despite the fact the Kremlin pressed Shultz hard on the question of favored status, which Congress is denying Moscow until restrictions on emigration are loosened, there was no indication the Soviets have any plans for reducing the trade flow.

To the contrary, the Soviets have tapped a needed source of both food and industrial technology and show no desire to shut it off.

Negative Incentive

Young Turks in Congress who on occasion kick up their heels about the seniority system in committee assignments formerly concentrated their attacks on frontal assaults on the system. They failed miserably because the machinery for change was in the very hands they were attacking.

They have changed their tactics to a back door approach which has a better chance of success. Pensions for retiring lawmakers have been liberalized over the years to the point a congressman is eligible for a pension almost before he learns his way around Washington, and if he has been in of-

fice a number of years he may retire on a pension larger than his salary.

Two Congressmen would add a further encouragement to retirement. They have introduced a bill which would deduct 10 per cent of a member's pension benefits for each year after his 70th birthday. The bill is not given an overwhelming chance of passage.

Veteran lawmakers will support most propositions liberalizing the retirement process except one which penalizes them if they decide to postpone the emoluments due them.

Anyway, it is an interesting try. The concept of a negative retirement incentive is one tactic not tried before.

It's A Pair Now, Not A Triangle

The United Farm Workers and the Teamsters make peace, leaving the UPW to confront the grape growers. It's a sort of "Let's you and him fight" arrangement.

The average tornado in the United States wreaks its havoc along a path of about four miles, the National Geographic Society says. But in 1917, one twister left a trail of destruction for nearly 300 miles through Illinois and Indiana.



GLANCING BACKWARDS

LAUNDRY KNOCKED OVER
— 1 Year Ago —

Cannon Wrecking Co. of Dorr, knocked down and hauled away the old laundry next to the boiler room of the former Whitecomb hotel in St. Joseph. Starting at noon Monday a bulldozer operator reduced the building to rubble in less than three hours and then loaded it into trucks.

The boilers are scheduled to be removed today and the 90-foot high stack will be dismantled. The Whitecomb Towers, a retirement facility being developed by the Michigan Baptist conference, will be heated electrically and there is no need for the 40-year-old stack and boiler room.

TAX SOFT DRINKS SAYS UPTON
— 10 Years Ago —

Rep. David Upton, First Berrien district legislator, today introduced legislation for consideration in the total tax reform, proposing a general sales tax cut and a soft drink tax.

Few legislators have ever dared to tax the so-called "kiddie trade." But booming soft drink sales make this a potentially rich tax source. Upton has recommended that the beer tax should be reduced from two cents per 12 ounce bottle to a penny.

RISK LIVES FOR SAKE OF GROCERIES
— 29 Years Ago —

More than 200 New Buffalo residents turned out as volunteer firemen yesterday afternoon when fire swept through the upstairs apartments above the Fred Cross grocery store on Whittaker avenue, and threatened the \$15,000 building.

Seeing that the grocery stock, later evaluated at more than \$5,000 was in danger, a huge crowd of townspeople and workers from the nearby railroad yards formed a line similar to a bucket brigade and carried the entire stock from the store while firemen, summoned from the New Buffalo village and township departments, extinguished the blaze.

SALES AHEAD
— 39 Years Ago —

Fruit market sales for 1934 to date are far ahead of the total sales on the twin city fruit market in 1933 according to report from market master Roscoe D. Krieger.

SOLD FARM
— 49 Years Ago —

Mrs. Hiram Wilson has sold her farm on Lake View avenue to the W. Dicksons of Chicago, and will spend the winter with her daughter in Villa Park, Ill.

HAPPY ABOUT CHOICE
— 53 Years Ago —

The Republicans are feeling happy over the promise of the party's gubernatorial nominee, Chase S. Osborn, to visit this section before the general election. James Kinane of Dowagiac, a Bull Moose in 1912, was chairman of the G.O.P. convention.

INVITED TO JOIN CIRCLE
— 83 Years Ago —

The Chautauqua circle will meet tonight with Mrs. Montgomery Shepard for reorganization. Persons wishing to join the circle for the coming year are welcome.

EDITOR'S MAILBAG

TEACHER RECEIVES LETTER FROM 'SHEEP'
Editor,

Thanks again for printing my letters that were critical of the tactics of the Michigan and National Education associations (teacher union) and the great number of sheep in the local union that go along with these tactics for no rhyme or reason.

The charges, more specifically, were extortion of money and its attempts to gain control of the public school system through out the state of Michigan. It's no wonder that many local school boards have found it necessary to band together against the forces of this union.

Since that time I have received a couple letters. One was from some "sheep" that signed its name as Annabelle Lee. (Sheep seldom have the courage to sign their own names.) Annabelle Lee spoke of the great glories of belonging to the union, on how teachers ought to be paid on the same level as doctors and lawyers, how I'm the example of a teacher being their own worst enemy, and how if it were not for unions, wages and working conditions of any group would not be as favorable as they are.

In regards to your first comment Annadumbelle Lee it's no great glory to belong to a union that must use coercion and extortion to get its members to join its ranks.

Should teachers be paid on the same level as doctors and lawyers? Why settle for that trivial amount? Surely the wages of teachers should compare with the President of the United States at about \$150,000 a year. After all, we are training the future leaders of this nation. We can teach them how greed, power, and extortion can conquer all.

Realistically, teachers could stand a little higher wages and are just in demanding that their wages keep pace with the increasing costs of living. Teacher's wages should be in line with other professions that have the same education requirements and responsibilities. Teachers do have many great and far reaching responsibilities and educational requirements, but hardly do they compare with doctors and lawyers.

If I'm an example of a teacher being their own worst enemy, then it is also true that the teaching profession doesn't need so-called friends like Annabelle Lee. Teachers should be leaders, not sheep.

Yes, unions have done many good and great things. Who would argue that point? Unions are as American as apple pie. However, unions can become too powerful and begin to serve not the people they purport to represent but themselves for their own sake, and such is the case with the MEA and NEA. The real problem comes from the failure of teachers to recognize that fact and, more importantly, do something about it.

Because of the number of sheep, many teachers can only hope that school boards abolish "agency shop" clauses. It's not stupidity; it's a matter of fact.

The second letter came from the desk of Richard Ziehm, the superintendent of St. Joseph Public Schools. It gave notice to me that unless I give in to the union's extortion demands, I may be fired.

I know that teachers do have financial responsibilities to the people that negotiate their contracts, and I'm more than willing to pay my fair share. However, the amount the union is demanding (\$145.00) by far exceeds the pro-rated costs of negotiations.

What the union and school are doing is actually illegal. The Michigan Supreme Court in the fall of 1972 stated that even if an "agency shop" clause would be passed into law for public employees (which was this last summer) that non-union public employees could still only be charged a pro-rated share of the actual costs of negotiations. The union and school are acting in violation of this dictum and are trying to force all teachers to belong to the union or pay equivalent to dues.

Public employees that don't want to belong to this union should be asked to pay their share of the actual costs of negotiations by NOT union dues.

I would appreciate any and all public support in my efforts to be allowed to pay my fair share of money toward the actual costs of negotiations and to continue teaching in the St. Joseph public school system.

Roger D. Jones
Milton Junior High
St. Joseph

CHOSEN PRESIDENT
LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Patrick J. Callahan, who heads Provincial House Inc. of Lansing, has been chosen president of the Michigan Nursing Home Association.

Ray Crowley

VC Preparing Children For War

WASHINGTON (NEA) — One of the most disturbing stories to come out of Vietnam in some time has been culled by neutrals from the statements of North Vietnamese prisoners. These interviews, hidden in reports to home governments, tell of the organized regular movement of children from South Vietnam to the North.

The children, according to this information, are being moved along the regular Communist South-North transportation routes in some numbers.

The current reports do not give the reason for this movement. But it is not difficult to guess, if we recall an interview with an officer who was held by the Viet Cong for five years. This highly intelligent, observant man said that the VC spent much time in the hamlets where he was held luring young people away from their parents, getting them to disobey, spy on and publicly denounce their fathers and mothers in the most ruthless ways.

Selected youngsters from age seven on were regularly sent to North Vietnam during this period for extensive education and training. Hanoi and the VC were working for the long pull. The youngsters would live, study, be indoctrinated and prepared for political operations and guerrilla maneuvers until they reached adulthood. Then they would be sent back south to carry on the struggle.

What the continuation of this practice today means is that the fight will continue into another generation with new cadres of men and women. How long it will be before the Hanoi planners are ready is not clear. But a 10 - 15 - year period of preparation and base-building is a short spell in this kind of war.

There's nothing unusual about this technique — among Communists. Many of the men who now run North Korea were trained as very young men outside the country for years before the takeover. Communists today regularly take youngsters from Thailand and Laos for lengthy training. They have, in fact, done this for a long time.

Much of the early fighting in South Vietnam was done by young men who had been taken to the North as children.

The operation proved successful in Vietnam until large numbers of the displaced youngsters died, were killed or became disillusioned. When North Vietnam had too few Southern replacements, it was forced to rely on its own mainline armies as an invasion force.

But at this point, the North found its armies ineffective without a trained Southern underground. The sorting out of residents in occupied areas was intensified. As usual, the old and the sick were moved out to be supported by Saigon, the "untrustworthy" who might spark resistance or dissent were killed or shuffled out, the men and women suitable as unskilled laborers recruited.

But the greatest emphasis was on selecting those who would be trained for future roles. Teenagers, subteens and children under 10 have been special targets.

There's something chilling about taking seven, eight and nine-year-old children, shipping them to another country and regimenting their thinking for a takeover of their homeland.

Corrupt Politician Good For England

No, I don't think it's a fine thing for a politician to be on the take or for corners to be cut in the electoral process, but isn't there something false and shrill about the tone being taken toward real and alleged political corruption these days?

Senator Lowell Weicker's endless expressions of horror, which always seem to begin "And do you mean to say . . . ?" suggest that he is the Senator not from Connecticut but from Mars. And wasn't the long dual ridiculous between Sam Dash and Patrick Buchanan over the question of whether it is proper for Buchanan, as a campaign aide, to draft an ad for some citizens' group? And how many angels do stand on the head of a pin, Mr. Dash?

Of course, actual corruption is to be condemned, but it is also civilizing to remember a thing or two.

If you asked a historian to name the most successful British Prime Ministers in terms of actual accomplishment there is no doubt that Sir Robert Walpole would stand at ease or near the top of the list.

Walpole was in power for some 20 years during the first half of the 18th century. He brought to England a stability it had not known since the death of Elizabeth in 1503. Until Walpole, England had possessed all the stability of a Serbia or an Iraq. Our notion of British gradualism and political common sense owes everything to Walpole's regime.

His economic policies also laid the foundation for British prosperity during the second half of the century and beyond. He devised and practiced the modern system of cabinet government.

Yet Sir Robert was also undoubtedly the most corrupt of all the Prime Ministers. John Gay's famous "Beggar's Opera" is a satire on the Walpole government. He came to power by openly buying the general election of 1722, going so far as to place ads in local newspapers stating exactly how much he would pay for a vote. He used court money, he dipped into secret service funds, and he had rich backers, like the Duke of Newcastle.

The duke, by the way, made long, slow, electoral tours, rarely sober, distributing largesse. When he spent some time in a borough, it seldom failed to return a Walpolian.

It has an eerie contemporary ring, but whenever a member raised a question in Parliament concerning Sir Robert's financial arts, the obese, apple-unchucking Walpole invariably quashed with the reply: "secrets of state."

Church To Ease Divorce Rules
LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The Episcopal Church's age-old ban against remarriage of divorced persons, except when they can get an ecclesiastical annulment, appears to be on the way out.

The projected change recognizes civil divorce for the first time and allows those who have been through it to re-marry in the church. Past requirements for a year's waiting period were dropped.

THE HERALD-PRESS

Published daily except Sunday by the Indianapolis Publishing Co. at 116 State St., St. Joseph, Michigan 49085. Second class postage paid at St. Joseph, Mich.

Volume 83, Number 238

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BERRY'S WORLD

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BH Board Adopts Bare Bones Budget Of \$13.1 Million

With no discussion by board or the handful from the public attending, the Benton Harbor school board last night adopted a record \$13.1 million 1973-74 budget, of which \$11,818,400 is aimed for regular school expenses.

Supt. Raymond Sreboth reported the budget is not what

the board wanted and does not provide for emergencies "of any nature."

Similarly, the budget does not provide an accumulation of cash for working capital, according to Budget Director Glenn Nienhuis, nor does it include a building and site levy. The budget estimates regular

school receipts at \$11,857,200 (\$38,800 over expenditures) or 11.4 per cent over last year's \$10,642,539.

Major sources of regular school revenue (with last year's sums in parentheses) are:

\$1,478,300 from 8.376 mills of allocated county tax (\$1,422,725).

\$3,754,925 from 21.35 mills of extra voted tax (\$3,626,232).

\$336,800 due on prior years' delinquent taxes (\$454,936).

\$4,859,550 in per-pupil state aid (\$4,182,032).

\$387,000 state aid for special education (\$318,383).

A host of other sources, ranging from short-term financial investments to tuition charges to state aid for driver education, will also be pumped into the school.

The regular school budget forecasts total cash receipts from local sources at 48.3 per cent of the budget (52.7 per cent forecast last year), 46.9 per cent from the state (45.2 last year), and .1 from federal government (.1).

Costs of instruction are pegged at 69.7 per cent of the regular budget and administration at 3.7 per cent. Cost-per-pupil is estimated at \$1,045.35, compared to last year's \$933.62.

Costs-per-pupil apparently are up from increased state aid (\$445 per-pupil, vs. \$378 last year), smaller numbers of pupils (10,900 vs. 11,063 last year) and greater state equalized valuation per pupil (\$17,735 vs. \$16,750 last year). There is no change in the operating tax rate.

The budget's "Part II" or special programs is basically self-supporting from state-federal aid and totals \$1,275,644.

Last year's Part II was budgeted for \$1,266,000 but upward revisions during the school year pushed it to \$1,381,175.

Last night's budget adoption was the earliest in Sreboth's memory, beating last year's adoption by one day.

Also last night, the board heard from North Shore-Lafayette parents seeking busing for students that have to walk busy US-33 north of the twin cities.

David S. Frazer, of route 2, US-33 North, Benton Harbor, said children are forced to cross and walk along busy two-lane US-33 and rumor has it the state highway department will raise the speed limit there from 50 to 55 miles an hour.

The Frazers have two children attending North Shore elementary school and one at Lafayette elementary, he said.

He called for busing for students at both schools who must walk on US-33. So did George Welch, of 1806 Park drive, in a letter to Secretary Philip McDonald.

McDonald promised Frazer an answer in 30 days.

Also last night, the board:

—Learned Bard school Principal James Ray has been named to a state education department committee for compensatory education.

—Approved a change from A through E gradings on elementary science report cards for one year. New grade markings are O for outstanding, S for satisfactory and U for unsatisfactory.



STUDENT TRUSTEES: Danny Hall, a senior, and Dorothy Ann Pryor, a junior, were seated last night as non-voting student representatives to the Benton Harbor board of education. They were selected by the high school student assembly. (Staff photo)



LAKERS' HOMECOMING ROYALTY: Crowning of king and queen for homecoming will be a feature of Lake Michigan Catholic High school homecoming festivities this weekend. Wednesday evening there will be a homecoming mass followed by a bonfire at Kiwanis park. Friday's highlights are a parade of floats, football game with Bridgman at Dickinson stadium and crowning of the homecoming king and queen. After the game there will be an alumni gathering in the high school social hall for Benton Harbor

St. John's, St. Joseph Catholic and Laker graduates. Saturday evening will be the homecoming dance in the social hall. Queen candidates are from left: Kathy Kinney, Teresa Dibble, Ann Kinney, Linda Kibler, Terri Ziebarth, Lisa Foster and Tina Schmid. King candidates are Kevin McGrath, Tim Alti, Gary Pelkey, Bill Migala, Kevin Van Arkle, Ken Ashbrook and Gary Pullano. (Staff Photo)

SJ Parents Worried

Safety Problem Unresolved

Three parents appeared before the St. Joseph city commission last night seeking a traffic light or pedestrian overpass near Dickinson stadium to protect school children crossing Lakeshore drive.

Other suggestions included reducing the speed limit on

Lakeshore drive, placing a crossing guard in the area or having a bus pick up children.

City commissioners agreed that high speed traffic in the area endangers school children, but said the state highway department does not feel there is a sufficient number of children west of Lakeshore drive between Hilltop and Lakeview to warrant a traffic signal.

City Manager Leland Hill also noted that a pedestrian overpass would cost about \$45,000 and could not be utilized when winter storms came in off the lake.

But Mayor Franklin Smith promised the city would investigate the area again to see what alternative safety measures could be taken.

Parents from the west Lakeshore area appeared before the commission in April 1972 protesting the lack of safety for children from Old Lake Shore road, Sunnybank road and Vail court who have to cross Lakeshore drive on their way to school.

The state highway department did put flashing signals on Lakeshore drive but Smith admitted last night the signals have not alleviated the problem.

The delegation of parents last night included: W. Gale Cutler, 218 Crofton circle; Richard Edinger, 225 North Sunnybank road; and Alvin Kelm, 221 North Sunnybank road.

In another safety matter, City Manager Hill said a push button light on Main street across from Uptown Drug store will be constructed by the state in 60 to 90 days. The light is designed to assist children crossing Main street toward Washington school.

In other business, city commissioners:

—Accepted a St. Joseph planning commission recommendation rejecting a request by Mrs. R.C. Bringleton for a zoning change at 1118 Main street for a beauty shop due to parking limitations and opposition from neighbors.

—Accepted a planning commission recommendation approving a zoning request by

Edward J. Gerring for a barber shop at 715 Gard street.

—Heard former Mayor Thomas Sparks ask for a stronger fence ordinance to protect the downtown area from unsightly fences.

—Gave first reading to a resolution incorporating a state law forbidding transport of liquor in an open container in a vehicle into a city ordinance, so a percentage of fines will be returned to the city.

—Approved a request by the St. Joseph Football Boosters club to hold a peanut sale Oct. 27 to raise funds to purchase athletic equipment for the public schools.

Approved sale of a lot at the northeast corner of Sunnydale and South State streets to Mrs. Lydia Gilbert of Benton Harbor at a price of \$5,000.

Also, City Atty. A.G. Preston, Jr. informed the commission that the state court of appeals has refused to hear an appeal from Premier Properties, owners of the Bluff apartments, of a tax assessment by the city.

Preston said the assessment for the property in 1972 was about a half-million dollars and that this was lowered slightly by the tax commission on appeal. But Premier Properties still wasn't satisfied and tried to appeal further, he said.

Stinging Reply For BH Question

Approving payment of bills is usually an uncomplicated procedure at Benton Harbor city commission meetings. However, Commissioner Carl Brown questioned one of the bills last night. The bill was from Talbot's drug store for \$4.35, and the reason was listed as "routine maintenance." Brown asked what kind of routine maintenance a drug store provides the city. Replied City Manager Charles Morrison: "Two city employees got stung by yellow jackets, and had to get ointment from the drug store."

The bill was unanimously approved.

Fairplain Group Files Petition

The Committee for the City of Fairplain announced in a release at 10 a.m. today that the petition for incorporation of the proposed City of Fairplain has been filed with the State Boundary Commission.

Mrs. Nancy Clark, county commissioner from the Fairplain area, said the petition was filed yesterday.

According to the committee announcement, the petition

contains 1,958 signatures, "well above the 1,452 previously suggested by the State Boundary Commission."

The Boundary commission rejected petitions filed earlier this year because of insufficient signatures. The City of Fairplain would comprise the former Fairplain school district, presently parts of Benton and St. Joseph townships.

Heart Patient Finds UCF Is Big Help

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is one of a series of real-life stories of people helped by United Community Fund services.

part have been made possible by medical research conducted by the Michigan Heart Association, a service of United Community Fund.

Harry now has a valve implanted in his heart to make it function properly and with continuous medication he is living an otherwise normal life. He is back at work at his job as business agent for Teamsters and Chauffeurs Local and is active in community life — including a post on the Twin Cities UCF board.

In the Twin Cities area, heart patients like Harry Reynolds find other help through the Berrien County Heart Unit and the Heart Information Center, both UCF services.

The Heart Unit conducts educational seminars and, in conjunction with Mercy and Memorial Hospitals, offers demonstrations of cardiac pulmonary resuscitation and training in stroke rehabilitation. The Heart Information Center provides literature on heart disease and refers many patients to the cardiovascular center at Mercy Hospital.



Thanks to you
it's working
The United Way



SIGN OF THE TIMES: Joseph Mitchell, retired St. Joseph fire captain and proprietor of service station at Niles Road and Lincoln avenue, St. Joseph, puts finishing touches on wry sign of the times. (Staff Photo)

BH Sets Up Special Housing Committee

The Benton Harbor city commission last night set up a special committee to work with the department of social services and check into substandard housing in Benton Harbor.

The committee was set up at the request of Commissioner Carl Brown, who said he wanted to know why persons are moving into substandard housing when there is an inspection department within the city to detect such housing. He intoned that if the inspection department found a house substandard, then people should not be moving in. The city also has a rental inspection ordinance.

Mayor Charles Joseph said the city should bear the responsibility of checking into the matter in conjunction with the social services department which provides rent on a large number of houses.

The committee will consist of Commissioners Brown, Charles Yarborough, and Mrs. Bonita Branscumb.

In another matter, the commission passed a resolution introduced by Mrs. Branscumb that the commission hold up funds for new police department uniforms and all promotions until the commission "thoroughly looks into" the matter.

The motion was supported by Commissioner F. Joseph Flough who said: "I believe there must have been some kind of human error, either now or some other time, that we'll have to live with."

Mrs. Branscumb referred to about \$6,000 worth of new police uniforms that have been ordered. She said there should be "more discussion concerning \$6,000 to change uniforms."

After the meeting, City Manager Charles Morrison said the uniforms are not all in, and added the commission had earlier approved the purchase as an item in the budget.

Brown said he felt they were more or less kicking a dead horse, but the motion was approved.

The commission also heard a report from Morrison concerning nine closed service stations which were identified as being "of concern."

Commissioners passed resolutions that the city engineer prepare plans and cost estimates for curbing the sidewalk at these locations: 486 Pipestone, 497 Pipestone, 271 Market, 297 Pipestone, 139 Territorial, and 202 North Fair. The owners of a station at 869 East Main said they would have the curbing done themselves, and commissioners asked that the agreement be in writing.

A station at 323 East Main will be asked when they expect to get fuel, since they said they are temporarily closed, and owners of one at 886 Territorial will be asked what kind of laundrette they plan on building there and for a time schedule.

In other business, the commission:

—Approved a local supplemental rehabilitation grant program with Model Cities which will provide \$120,000 to correct violations of city building, housing, electrical, plumbing, and heating codes for qualified housing.

—Approved a contract with Madison-Madison International for the design of a new community center, with the architect paid 5.7 per cent of construction costs.

—Sent to committee an agreement for shared responsibility for fire protection at Twin Cities airport between Benton Harbor and Benton township fire departments.

—Passed a resolution commending outgoing Model Cities Director Benjamin Davis for his service to persons in this area. Joseph also requested that the Michigan Employment Securities Commission relocate an outreach office in downtown Benton Harbor. The request was unanimously agreed to.

The commission also received an auditor's report on the Benton Harbor building authority which leases the public library to the city. The audit shows the authority with a \$10,443 surplus of revenues over expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1973, — reduced to \$5,443 by deduction of certain debt requirements.

Principal and interest on bonds outstanding on the library total \$288,425

Leave Granted Rev. W. P. Kobza

The Rev. William P. Kobza, formerly based at St. John's Catholic church in Benton Harbor, has been granted a leave of absence from active ministry as a priest, according to the Rev. Paul V. Donovan, Bishop of the Kalamazoo Diocese.

Rev. Donovan said Rev. Kobza was granted the leave of absence at "his (Kobza's) personal request."

Father Kobza's assignment by the Kalamazoo Diocese to a special inner-city ministry in Benton Harbor was terminated on Oct. 1, Bishop Donovan said. Rev. Kobza began the specialized ministry on Sept. 1, 1972.

Prior to his Benton Harbor assignment, Father Kobza served as pastor of St. Cyril and Methodius church in Wayland and St. Augustine church in Middleville.

The Kalamazoo Diocese said it will continue its commitment to the inner-city, and when possible will assign another priest to the special inner-city ministry.

Royalton May Purchase Land

Royalton township board last night voted to hold a public hearing at an undetermined future date on the proposed purchase by the township of eight acres of land across John Beers road from the present township hall.

If purchased, Clerk Otto Jasper reported, the land could serve in the immediate future as a township parking area, and in the more distant future as a site for additional township buildings.

Date for the meeting is to be

set by Jasper in consultation with the township attorney.

According to the clerk, the land is presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Milton Geisler. He said the proposed price of the acreage is \$15,000.

The land is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of John Beers road and Scottdale road.

Jasper said the hearing was requested in a petition submitted to the board by a group of township residents

New Buffalo Trying Again On School Bonds

NEW BUFFALO — A \$1.3 million building program was approved last night by New Buffalo school board for presentation to district voters in a special election Nov. 12.

The election will mark the sixth attempt by the board since 1962 for approval of a bond issue.

The \$1.3 million proposal would finance enlargement of West elementary school to house all elementary students, and remodeling of Central elementary school for use as a middle school for grades 6-8.

The bond issue vote was approved by a 6-1 vote of the board. Mrs. Veronica Schröder opposed the proposition.

Voting for the measure were Leo Mundt, Richard Novacek, Keith Swen, Charles Wilens, Alvin Kissman and David Holmes.

The last day to register for the special election is Oct. 26 at 5 p.m.

New Buffalo voters turned down a \$3.5 million bond issue for a new high school in June, along with a \$500,000 swimming pool.

In other business, Supt. Walter Schwarz said the district will experience a reduction in state aid this year as result of a loss in enrollment of 71 students from last year. Official enrollment shows 602 students in grades K-5, down 40, and 835 in grades 6-12, down 31 students.

Daniel Lisak, athletic director, was given a 12.5 per cent salary hike, from \$891 to \$1,017.50 per year.

Ronald Morrison, high school principal, announced parent-teacher conferences for high school students Oct. 30 and 31 in the

high school gymnasium.

Robert Heit, elementary principal, said parent-teacher conferences will be Nov. 6 at West school and Nov. 8 at Central school. He noted that open house was set for Oct. 25 at both schools.

The board scheduled a public hearing on the proposed 1973-74 budget at 8 p.m. Oct. 22, with a special board meeting to follow at 8:30 p.m.

Bangor Board Not Ready To Give Up

BANGOR — Bangor's school board is not giving up on plans for a school building program despite 10 rejections by voters in four years.

Spokesmen for the board told three residents last night that

the board plans to appoint citizen committees to work on a building program.

The committees came after Mrs. Ray Larned, Mrs. Robert House and Mrs. William Hoyer questioned the board about what

steps could be taken to convince voters that new buildings were needed.

Voters in the district have 10 times rejected school board bond issue proposals sought for financing new construction. The last issue, for \$3,995,000, was rejected Sept. 10, by a 633 to 447 tally.

In other areas, a public hearing of the 1973-74 budget of \$1,729,738, drew no objections. Only one person, besides Supt. Howard Beyer, attended the session which came before the regular school board meeting.

The budget is \$101,202 over last year's budget of \$1,628,536. Local property taxes are to produce \$434,101 towards the operating budget and another \$169,388 for debt retirement. State aid is to provide \$1,107,160 and other sources \$188,537 for operations.

This year's local property tax rate is to be 27.18 mills. The budget had been adopted by the board Sept. 10.

Beyer reported, through his office, that official enrollment in the district this year is 2,027 students or four over last year's figure.

Galien Treasurer Resigns Position

GALIEN — Mrs. Violet Swen, Galien village treasurer since 1966, has resigned.

Her resignation, effective Oct. 5, was accepted by the village council last night. She said she was leaving the position because she had moved from the village to Three Oaks.

Mrs. Swen had also been serving as village assessor since the death of her husband Euclid Swen earlier this year. The current terms of both offices run until March, 1974.

Successors may be appointed by the council to serve until the next regular election.

In other areas, an audit of the 1972-73 fiscal year, which ended in February was received, showing the village had received \$23,334 in the general fund and spent \$22,973. It also showed \$15,700 had been received in street funds and \$11,171 spent. The report was prepared by Frank Sheldon, a certified public accountant from Three Oaks for \$400.

Clerk Linda Doyle reported that the council agreed to seek bids on two old village trucks and that a new dump truck had arrived.



RECRUITING JUNIOR FIRE MARSHALS: Firemen from Twin City area departments and 6,800 kindergarten through third grade students will team up to inspect homes for fire hazards. Youngsters get parents to check homes for conditions that could cause fires. Fire Prevention Week is currently being observed. Firemen display banner that will be awarded schools with high rate of

inspection sheet returns. From Left: Capt. Earl Kasischke, St. Joseph; Chief Elliott Spreen, Watervliet; Capt. John Billups, Benton Harbor; Fireman Roy Duffield, St. Joseph township; Lt. Roy Nelson, St. Joseph township; Chief Lloyd Both, Tri-Unit department; Fireman Norman Rizzo, Sodus; and Inspector Jim Stevens, Benton Harbor. (Staff photo)

Van Buren Board Eyes Cuts

Budget 'Hashed Over' In Private

BY STEVE McQUOWN
Paw Paw Bureau

PAW PAW — Van Buren county commissioners went behind closed doors on two separate occasions yesterday to discuss the 1974 budget to be adopted later this month.

Board Chairman Donald Hanson said later that commissioners "...hashed over quite outspokenly," proposed cuts in the sheriff's budget as well as budgets for other departments.

The commissioners began their morning session with a closed-door meeting, met for about 45 minutes in a public session before again barring newsmen from hearing discussions on the budget.

Commissioner William Taft of South Haven said preliminary budget figures will not be made public until there are additional discussions with department heads.

The board is scheduled to continue committee work on the budget before it comes up for approval at a night meeting at 7 on Oct. 23.

In other action, the board voted to put county employees under the same group health insurance plan.

Previously, county employees have been under four different plans which made more paperwork for the county, according to Commissioner Leonard Markstrom of South Haven township.

The new group plan will add major medical benefits for all 107 employees and will cost about 56 cents per employee per month more, Markstrom said. "It's a new benefit for employees," he added.

The county currently spends about \$18 per month per

employee for health insurance, he said.

The board accepted the resignation of county library board member Rev. Richard G. Baker, an outspoken critic of the county board's financial support of the county library system.

Commissioners also made appointments to county committees.

For three-year terms, on the planning commission, John Williams of Grand Junction and Viola Stephayn of Lawton; on the soldier's relief commission, Charles E. Henry of South Haven; on the veteran's trust committee, Roger Hoyle of Paw Paw; and the building authority, Ivan Stein of South Haven.

For four-year terms on the board of canvassers, Edwin J.

Twitchell of South Haven and Mrs. Anita Green of Decatur.

For two-year terms on the election scheduling committee, Mrs. Augusta Dahms and Mrs. Betty Hassnussen of Paw Paw and Mrs. Jewell Story of Hartford.

Appointed to a five-year term on the health board was Gale Copping of Paw Paw, and Mrs. Kenneth Horton of Bangor was

appointed to a five-year term on the library board along with Roger Sexton who was appointed to a one-year term.

In other action, the board voted in a split, 5-4 decision not to buy a new air conditioned patrol car for the sheriff's department.

Several commissioners spoke out against the added cost of air conditioning.

Lab Report Says No Alcohol In Blood Of Dead Infant

Berrien sheriff's detectives said a state police crime lab investigation found no alcohol in the blood of a two-year-old infant who died Sept. 28, although the child was initially reported to have had beer in his lungs at time of death. Det. Fred Reeves said the department has closed the case involving the death of

Richard Ellis, Jr., who was found dead in his parents' car while they were visiting friends on a farm near Eau Claire. The parents are Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ellis. Reeves also said the doctor who performed the autopsy stated he could not testify to any other cause of death other than suffocation.

Coloma Will Vote On Charter Nov. 6

COLOMA — Coloma city commission last night voted to place the proposed revised city charter before voters on the Nov. 6 ballot.

The proposed revision, if approved, would replace a 32-year old city charter in effect since the city was formed after being a village.

Major changes in the proposed charter would make it a duty for the mayor to vote on all issues brought before the city commission. Now he votes in cases of a tie vote.

The package would also make the position of city assessor an appointive office rather than an elective post in the city.

Other recommended changes would create a citizens advisory committee to study and investigate specific problems or needs of various city depart-

ments; create a separate zoning board and permit the licensing and regulating of businesses inside the city limits.

In other areas, commissioners authorized the city clerk to write the Coloma township board to notify them of their willingness to meet to discuss the possible \$20,000 savings the city could obtain by merging the city and township police forces.

Commissioners set new hours for operating their rubbish waste refuse container as 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and approved use of the container by local businesses.

Trick or Treat hours were set from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31, by the commission and approval was given for a Coloma Band Boosters tag day sale, Oct. 20.

Named To GI Panel

SOUTH HAVEN — Charles E. Henry of South Haven has been reappointed to the Soldiers and Sailors Relief commission by Van Buren Probate Judge Meyer Warslawsky.

Henry has served on the

commission since 1970.

The commission administers funds for the relief of honorably discharged, indigent soldiers, sailors, marines, and nurses.

Missing Paper Work Delays Some Barring Sharing Funds

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Office of Revenue Sharing says it is holding back \$38,077 in revenue-sharing checks to eight Berrien county communities because local officials haven't submitted necessary paperwork.

To keep the checks coming, all communities are required to fill in three periodic forms telling the federal government how revenue-sharing funds were being used.

"Somehow," the U.S. Office of Revenue Sharing reported, "...computers did not receive all three reports in all cases." It

punched out an 84-page list of communities with missing reports.

Communities have been notified by mail to get withheld funds by sending in needed forms.

Funds being held back in Berrien county are:

Buchanan city, \$19,195; Eau Claire village, \$2,477; Galien village, \$674; Grand Beach village, \$1,134; Paroda township, \$4,002; Buchanan township, \$3,108; Hagar township, \$6,109; Watervliet township, \$2,358.

River Valley Will Vote Nov. 9 On 1.814 Mills

THREE OAKS — Voters in River Valley school district will be asked to approve 1,824 in additional mills for two years in a special election scheduled for Nov. 9.

The school board set the amount last night, having set the date previously.

Supt. Joseph Caimi said that if approved, the additional millage will represent an increase in revenue of about \$157,845, including about \$70,000 in increased state aid.

He explained that under a new state law, school districts are required to levy a minimum of 22 mills for operation to qualify for full state aid.

River Valley district levies 20.176 mills. The additional levy would raise this to the minimum 22 mills, said Caimi.

The vote is contingent on the state legislature adopting a proposal to allow school districts until Nov. 15 to adopt additional millage to be applied to 1973 tax rolls.

In other action, the board set a public hearing on the proposed 1973-74 budget for 8 p.m. at the regular Oct. 22 board meeting. A copy of the budget will be available for public review after Oct. 15.

A low bid from Firestone, LaPorte, Ind., was accepted for about 33 bus tires. Cost of tires is \$55 for regular tread, down about 25 per cent from last year; \$61.22 for snow treads, and \$5.34 for tubes. Three bids were received.

The board approved hiring one additional teacher to alleviate overcrowding in grades three, four and five at Chikaming and Three Oaks elementary schools.

Caimi reported official enrollment at 2,279, a drop of four students from last year. He said actual K-12 enrollment was up three students, and the drop was reflected in the adult community school program.

Says Fuel Crisis Is 'Manipulated'

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — The chairman of a special Michigan legislative committee investigating the energy crisis has charged major petroleum firms with manipulating the crisis.

Rep. William Fitzgerald, D-Detroit, said he is convinced that major oil companies have threatened fuel oil shortages in order to boost prices this winter.

"It's amazing how much the oil companies have to gain from this energy crunch," Fitzgerald said.

He said the crisis enables industry to undercut independent dealers who tend to hold gasoline prices down and strengthens its chances of getting favorable legislation.

Fitzgerald also said public concern with the environment is being sidetracked by a more basic fear of being without heating oil.

Van Buren County

Covert Leading In Tax Revenue

BY STEVE McQUOWN
Paw Paw Bureau

PAW PAW — Covert township again heads the list of local governments in tax revenue expected to be generated for county business in 1973, according to figures released yesterday by the Van Buren county equalization office.

The township is expected to produce an estimated \$307,089 in tax revenue, putting the township far in front of any other tax-producing township, village or city in the county.

Most of the tax revenue is due to Consumer

Power company's multi-million-dollar power plant located in the township.

Other high tax-producing areas include South Haven city, \$159,584; Paw Paw township, \$146,029; and Antwerp township, \$110,436.

Overall, the county expects to collect \$1,491,766 in taxes for county use in 1973, compared to \$1,308,072 from 1972, according to the equalization office. The income is from a 5.25 mill tax rate on property value imposed by the county to finance operations.

An estimated \$105,611 of the 1973 tax revenue from local sources will be for the ambulances now

being operated by local units.

Besides the leaders, other communities and the taxes they will generate for the county government's operation are: Townships - Almena, \$34,429; Arlington, \$30,705; Bangor, \$31,619; Bloomington, \$36,185; Columbia, \$47,091; Decatur, \$68,068; Geneva, \$39,118; Hamilton, \$24,671; Hartford, \$68,582; Keweenaw, \$71,166; Lawrence, \$47,017; Pine Grove, \$32,681; Porter, \$46,368; South Haven, \$78,594; and Waverly, \$28,191.

Cities - Bangor, \$41,545; Gobles, \$12,006; and Hartford, \$37,157.